

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River Watershed R2 - McCoy Canyon Creek  
Total Selenium**

**Summary of Proposed Action**

McCoy Canyon Creek, located in the Los Angeles River Watershed (Reach 2) is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as not supporting (impaired) due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the total selenium chronic water quality criterion for protection of freshwater aquatic life. The beneficial uses affected by this impairment relate to aquatic life and include warm freshwater habitat and wildlife habitat.

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	McCoy Canyon Creek	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Selenium
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.21	<b>Source(s)</b>	Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	3.6 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Analytical Unit 13
<b>Size Affected</b>	3.6 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2002
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Entire Creek	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2004

**Watershed Characteristics**

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The river has several tributaries including Arroyo Calabasas which, in turn, has McCoy Canyon Creek as a tributary. McCoy Canyon Creek is located mostly in the City of Calabasas, though it joins Arroyo Calabasas in the City of Los Angeles. Land use in this sub watershed is mostly open space with some residential, commercial, mixed urban, and transportation.

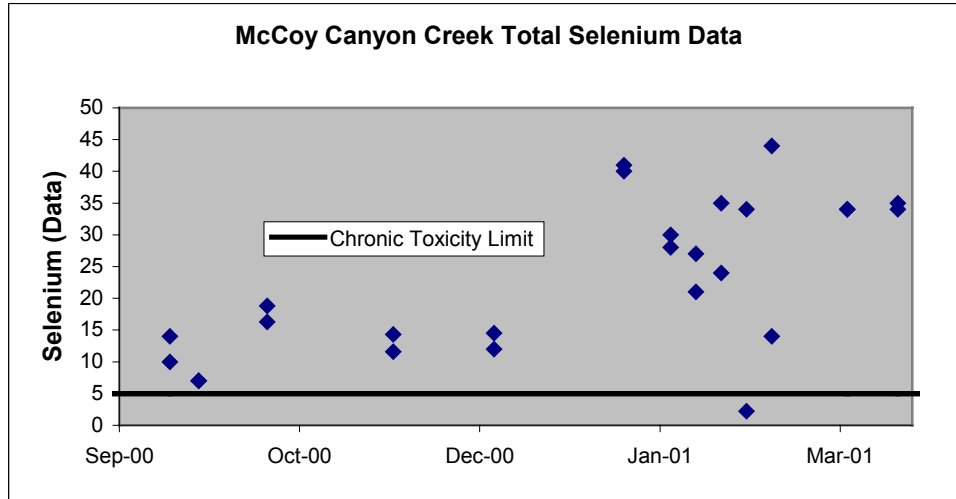
**Water Quality Objectives Not Attained**

Through the California Toxics Rule, the U.S. EPA promulgated water quality criteria for priority pollutants for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. The chronic criterion for selenium is 5 µg/l. This was exceeded in 97 % of the sampling events.

## Beneficial Uses Affected

- Warm Freshwater Habitat
- Wildlife Habitat

## Data Assessment



**Table 2. Summary of Total Selenium Data for McCoy Canyon Creek**

Dates of Sampling	7/00 - 4/01
Number of Samples (n)	33
Minimum Data Value	2.2 µg/l
Maximum Data Value	44 µg/l
Median Data Value	21 µg/L
Arithmetic Mean Value	22.3 µg/l
Standard Deviation	11.5 µg/L
Percent above Chronic Criterion	97 %

## Potential Sources

Natural and urban runoff are likely sources of selenium loading to this waterbody.

## References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
Watershed Management Initiative, 2000  
California Toxics Rule

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River Watershed R2 - McCoy Canyon Creek  
Fecal Coliform**

## Summary of Proposed Action

McCoy Canyon Creek, located in the Los Angeles River Watershed (Reach 2), is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as partially supporting (impaired) due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the fecal coliform water quality objective for protection of water contact recreation. The beneficial use affected by this impairment is water contact recreation (REC 1).

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	McCoy Canyon Creek	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Fecal Coliform
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.21	<b>Source(s)</b>	Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	3.6 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Analytical Unit 15
<b>Size Affected</b>	3.6 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2000
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Entire Creek	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2002

## Watershed Characteristics

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The river has several tributaries including Arroyo Calabasas which, in turn, has McCoy Canyon Creek as a tributary. McCoy Canyon Creek is located mostly in the City of Calabasas, though it joins Arroyo Calabasas in the City of Los Angeles. Land use in this sub watershed is mostly open space some residential, commercial, mixed urban, and transportation.

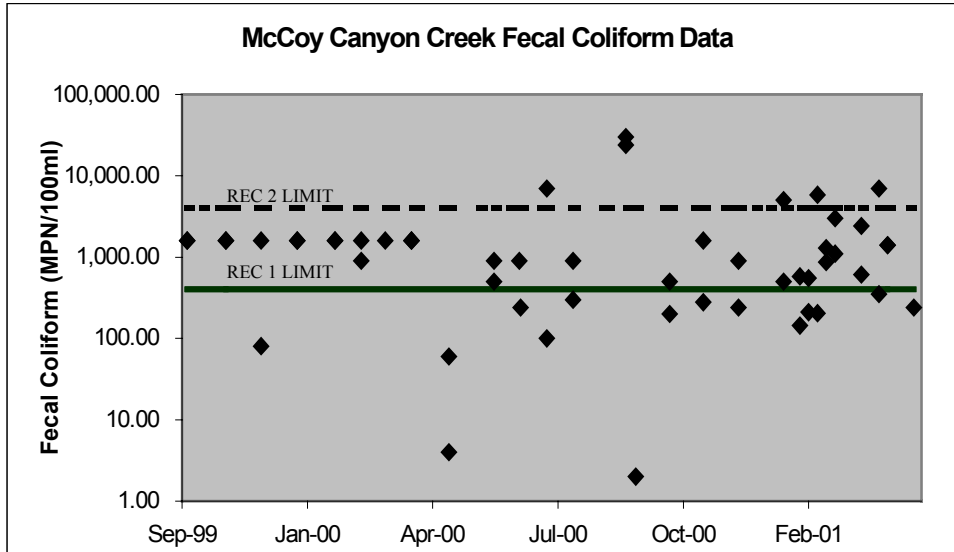
## Water Quality Objectives Not Attained

The Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties contains water quality standards for the protection of beneficial uses of waterbodies in the region. The basin plan stipulates that no more than 10% of total samples within a 30-day period should exceed 400/100ml for water contact recreation. Analysis of available data determined that the objective for REC 1 was exceeded in 67.9% of the sampling events.

## Beneficial Uses Affected

- Water Contact Recreation

## Data Assessment



**Table 2. Summary of Fecal Coliform Data for McCoy Canyon Creek**

Dates of Sampling	10/99 – 4/01
Number of Samples (n)	56
Minimum Data Value	0
Maximum Data Value	30,000
Median Data Value	900
Arithmetic Mean Value	1,800
Standard Deviation	5,576
Percent above REC 1 Objective	67.9 %

## Potential Sources

Natural and urban run-off are sources of coliform loading to this waterbody.

## References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
 Watershed Management Initiative, 2000

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River R2 - McCoy Canyon Creek  
Nitrate as Nitrogen**

## Summary of Proposed Action

McCoy Canyon Creek, located in the Los Angeles River Watershed (Reach 2), is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as fully supporting but threatened (impaired) due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the nitrate as nitrogen water quality objective for protection of potential drinking water supplies. The beneficial use affected by this impairment is potential municipal and domestic supply (MUN).

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	McCoy Canyon Creek	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Nitrate as Nitrogen
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.21	<b>Source(s)</b>	Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	3.6 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Low
<b>Size Affected</b>	3.6 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2012
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Entire Creek	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2014

## Watershed Characteristics

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The river has several tributaries including Arroyo Calabasas which, in turn, has McCoy Canyon Creek as a tributary. McCoy Canyon Creek is located mostly in the City of Calabasas, though it joins Arroyo Calabasas in the City of Los Angeles. Land use in this sub watershed is mostly open space with some residential, commercial, mixed urban, and transportation

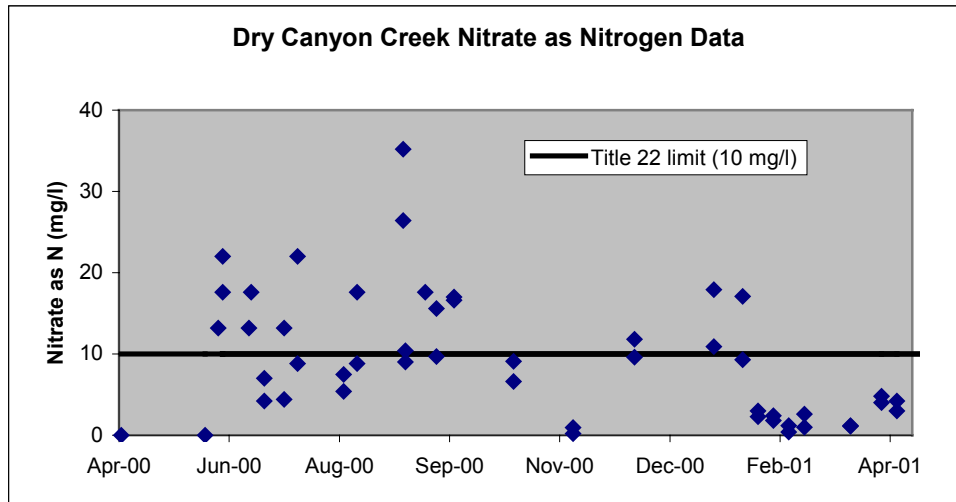
## Water Quality Objectives Not Attained

Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations specifies maximum contaminant levels for drinking water supplies. These maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) are incorporated into the Basin Plan as water quality objectives to protect the MUN beneficial use. The objective for nitrate as nitrogen is 10 mg/l. Analysis of available data determined that this objective was exceeded in 37.3% of the sampling events.

## Beneficial Uses Affected

- Potential Municipal and Domestic Supply

## Data Assessment



**Table 2. Summary of Nitrate as Nitrogen Data for McCoy Canyon Creek**

Dates of Sampling	4/00 – 4/01
Number of Samples (n)	51
Minimum Data Value	0 mg/l
Maximum Data Value	35.2 mg/l
Median Data Value	8.8 mg/l
Arithmetic Mean Value	9.28 mg/l
Standard Deviation	7.77 mg/l
Percent above Objective	37.3 %

## Potential Sources

Runoff from natural and urban sources

## References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
 Watershed Management Initiative, 2000

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River Watershed R2 - Dry Canyon Creek  
Total Selenium**

**Summary of Proposed Action**

Dry Canyon Creek, located in the Los Angeles River Watershed (Reach 2), is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as not supporting (impaired) due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the total selenium chronic water quality criterion for protection of freshwater aquatic life. The beneficial uses affected by this impairment relate to aquatic life and include warm freshwater habitat and wildlife habitat.

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	Dry Canyon Creek	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Selenium
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.21	<b>Source(s)</b>	Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	3.9 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Analytical Unit 13
<b>Size Affected</b>	3.9 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2002
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Entire Creek	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2004

**Watershed Characteristics**

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The river has several tributaries including Arroyo Calabasas which, in turn, has Dry Canyon Creek as a tributary. Most of Dry Canyon Creek is located in the City of Calabasas, though it joins Arroyo Calabasas in the City of Los Angeles. Land use in this sub watershed is mostly open space with some residential, commercial, mixed urban, and transportation.

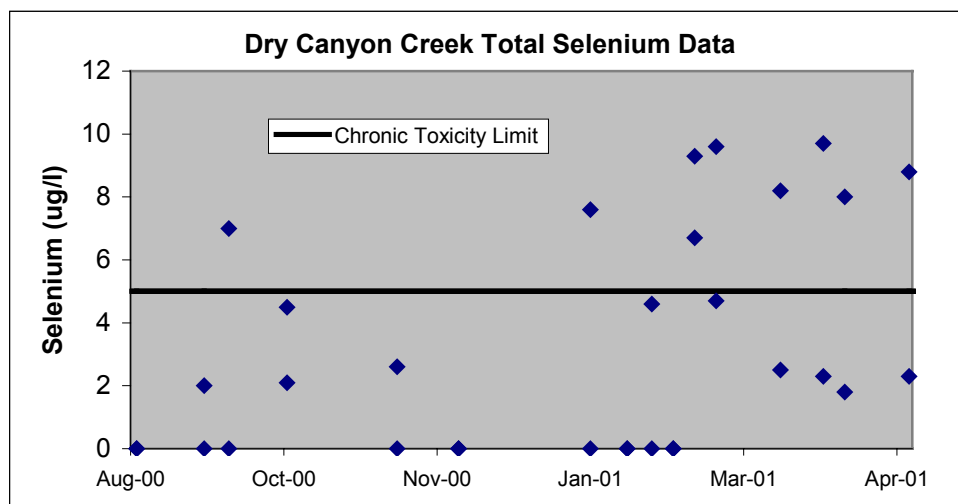
**Water Quality Objectives Not Attained**

Through the California Toxics Rule, the U.S. EPA promulgated water quality criteria for priority pollutants for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. The chronic criterion for selenium is 5 µg/l. This was exceeded in 28.1 % of the sampling events.

## Beneficial Uses Affected

- Warm Freshwater Habitat
- Wildlife Habitat

## Data Assessment



**Table 2. Summary of Total Selenium Data for Dry Canyon Creek**

Dates of Sampling	8/00 – 5/01
Number of Samples (n)	32
Minimum Data Value	0 µg/l
Maximum Data Value	9.7 µg/l
Median Data Value	2.2 µg/l
Arithmetic Mean Value	3.3 µg/l
Standard Deviation	3.6 µg/l
Percent above Objective	28.1 %

## Potential Sources

Natural and urban runoff are likely sources of selenium loading to this waterbody.

## References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
Watershed Management Initiative, 2000  
California Toxics Rule



California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River Watershed R2 - Dry Canyon Creek  
Fecal Coliform**

## Summary of Proposed Action

Dry Canyon Creek, located in the Los Angeles River Watershed (Reach 2), is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as partially supporting (impaired) due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the fecal coliform water quality objective for protection of water contact recreation (REC 1). The beneficial use affected by this impairment is REC 1.

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	Dry Canyon Creek	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Fecal Coliform
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.21	<b>Source(s)</b>	Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	3.9 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Analytical Unit 15
<b>Size Affected</b>	3.9 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2000
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Entire Creek	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2002

## Watershed Characteristics

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. The river has several tributaries including Arroyo Calabasas which, in turn, has Dry Canyon Creek as a tributary. Most of Dry Canyon Creek is located in the City of Calabasas, though it joins Arroyo Calabasas in the City of Los Angeles. Land use in this sub watershed is mostly open space with some residential, commercial, mixed urban, and transportation.

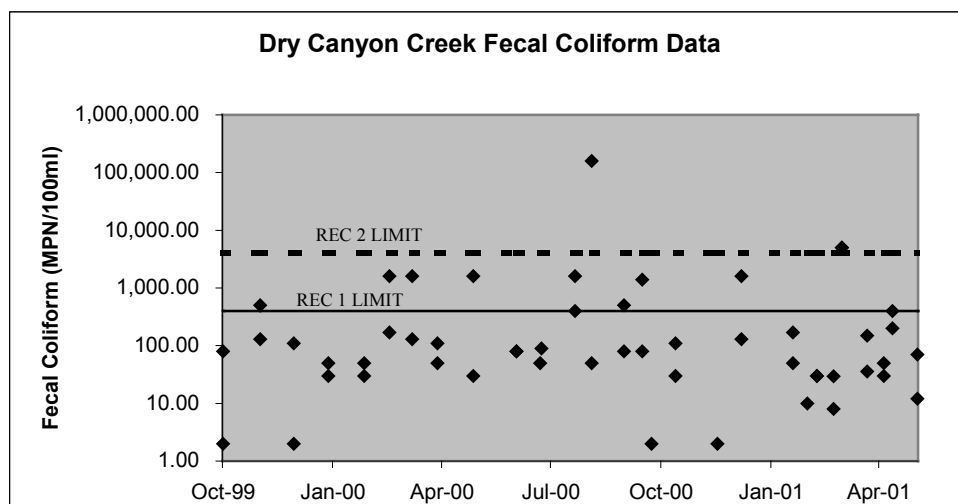
## Water Quality Objectives Not Attained

The Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties contains water quality standards for the protection of beneficial uses of waterbodies in the region. The basin plan stipulates no more than 10% of total samples within a 30-day period should exceed 400/100ml for water contact recreation. Analysis of available data determined that the limit for REC 1 was exceeded in 19.6% of the sampling events.

## Beneficial Uses Affected

- Water Contact Recreation

## Data Assessment



**Table 2. Summary of Fecal Coliform Data for Dry Canyon Creek**

Dates of Sampling	11/99 – 5/01
Number of Samples (n)	56
Minimum Data Value	0
Maximum Data Value	160,000
Median Data Value	80
Arithmetic Mean Value	3,283
Standard Deviation	21,347
Percent above REC 1 Objective	19.6%

## Potential Sources

Natural and urban runoff are likely sources of coliform loading to this waterbody.

## References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
Watershed Management Initiative, 2000

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River Reach 1  
Total Aluminum**

**Summary of Proposed Action**

Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as fully supporting but threatened (impaired) due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the total aluminum water quality criteria for protection of potential drinking water sources. The beneficial use affected by this impairment is the potential for municipal and domestic supply (MUN).

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	Los Angeles River	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Aluminum
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.12	<b>Source(s)</b>	Point and Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	51 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Analytical Unit 13
<b>Size Affected</b>	23 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2002
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Reach 1	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2004

**Watershed Characteristics**

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River extends from the Estuary to just above the confluence with Arroyo Seco, and includes Rio Hondo below the Santa Ana Freeway.

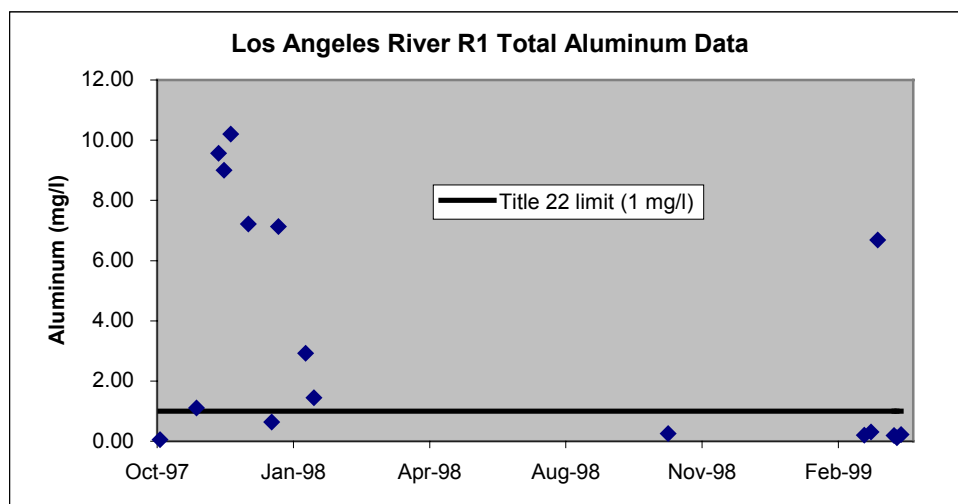
**Water Quality Objectives Not Attained**

Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations specifies maximum contaminant levels for drinking water supplies. These maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) are incorporated into the Basin Plan as water quality objectives to protect the MUN beneficial use. The objective for aluminum is 1 mg/l. Analysis of available data determined that this limit was exceeded in 55.6% of the sampling events. The more recent data indicates compliance with criteria. If this trend continues, aluminum can be removed from the list in the next cycle.

## Beneficial Uses Affected

- Potential Municipal and Domestic Supply

## Data Assessment



note: maximum data value not shown on graph

**Table 2. Summary of Total Aluminum data for Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River**

Dates of Sampling	10/97 - 4/99
Number of Samples (n)	18
Minimum Data Value	.05 mg/l
Maximum Data Value	60 mg/l
Median Data Value	1.28 mg/l
Arithmetic Mean Value	6.6 mg/l
Standard Deviation	14.1 mg/l
Percent above Objective	55.6%

## Potential Sources

Point and nonpoint sources

## References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
Watershed Management Initiative, 2000

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River Reach 1  
Dissolved Cadmium**

**Summary of Proposed Action**

Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as not supporting (impaired) for freshwater aquatic life and fully supporting but threatened for potential municipal and domestic supply due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the dissolved and total cadmium water quality criteria for protection of freshwater aquatic life and potential drinking water sources. The beneficial uses affected by this impairment include warm freshwater habitat and wildlife habitat and potential municipal and domestic supply (MUN).

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	Los Angeles River	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Cadmium
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.12	<b>Source(s)</b>	Point and Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	51 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Analytical Unit 13
<b>Size Affected</b>	23 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2002
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Reach 1	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2004

**Watershed Characteristics**

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River extends from the Estuary to just above the confluence with Arroyo Seco, and includes Rio Hondo below the Santa Ana Freeway.

**Water Quality Objectives Not Attained**

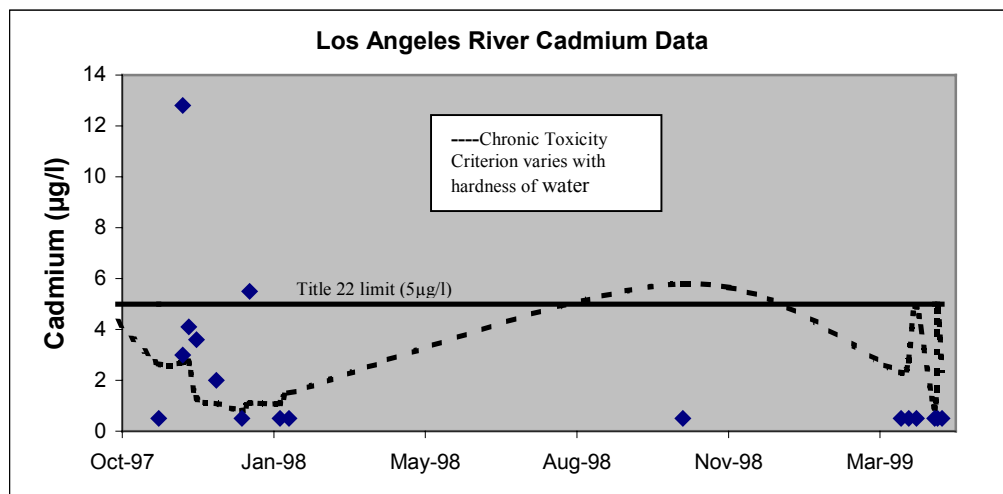
Through the California Toxics Rule, the U.S. EPA promulgated water quality criteria for priority pollutants for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. The criteria for acute and chronic toxicity for cadmium are dependent on the hardness of the water. Based on the available hardness data, it was determined that the acute and chronic criteria for cadmium were exceeded in 22.2% and 33.3% of the sampling events, respectively. In addition to this, the maximum contaminant level for total cadmium, specified by Title 22 of

the California Code of Regulations, was exceeded in 11.1% of the sampling events. The more recent data indicates compliance with criteria. If this trend continues, cadmium can be removed from the list in the next cycle.

### Beneficial Uses Affected

- Warm Freshwater Habitat
- Wildlife Habitat
- Potential Municipal and Domestic Supply

### Data Assessment



**Table 2. Summary of Cadmium data for Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River**

Dates of Sampling	10/97 - 4/99
Number of Samples (n)	18
Minimum Data Value	0.5 µg/l
Maximum Data Value	12.8 µg/l
Median Data Value	0.5 µg/l
Arithmetic Mean Value	2.1 µg/l
Standard Deviation	3.1 µg/l
Percent above Objective	22.2% (acute) 33.3% (chronic) CTR, 11.1% (Title 22)

### Potential Sources

Point and nonpoint sources

### References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
Watershed Management Initiative, 2000  
California Toxics Rule

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River Reach 1  
Dissolved Copper**

**Summary of Proposed Action**

Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as not supporting (impaired) due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the dissolved copper water quality criteria for protection of freshwater aquatic life. The beneficial uses affected by this impairment relate to aquatic life and include warm freshwater habitat and wildlife habitat.

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	Los Angeles River	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Copper
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.12	<b>Source(s)</b>	Point and Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	51 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Analytical Unit 13
<b>Size Affected</b>	23 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2002
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Reach 1	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2004

**Watershed Characteristics**

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River extends from the Estuary to just above the confluence with Arroyo Seco, and includes Rio Hondo below the Santa Ana Freeway.

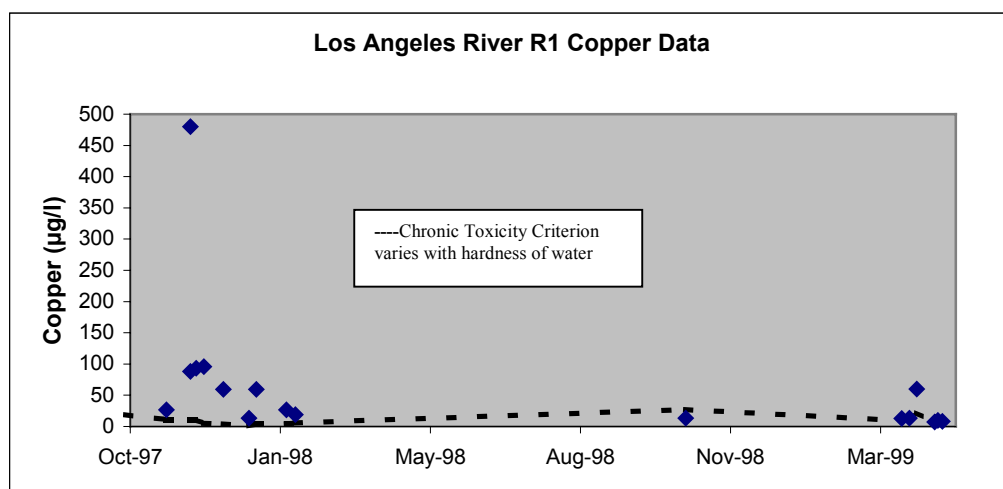
**Water Quality Objectives Not Attained**

Through the California Toxics Rule, the U.S. EPA promulgated water quality criteria for priority pollutants for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. The limits for acute and chronic toxicity for copper are dependent on the water hardness value. Based on the available hardness data, it was determined that the limits for acute and chronic copper toxicity was exceeded in 61.1% and 72.2% of the sampling events, respectively.

## Beneficial Uses Affected

- Warm Freshwater Habitat
- Wildlife Habitat

## Data Assessment



**Table 2. Summary of Copper data for Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River**

Dates of Sampling	10/97 - 4/99
Number of Samples (n)	18
Minimum Data Value	2.4 µg/l
Maximum Data Value	480 µg/l
Median Data Value	23 µg/l
Arithmetic Mean Value	61 µg/l
Standard Deviation	109 µg/l
Percent above Objective	61.1% (acute) 72.2% (chronic)

## Potential Sources

Point and nonpoint sources

## References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
Watershed Management Initiative, 2000  
California Toxics Rule



California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region

**Los Angeles River Reach 1  
Dissolved Zinc**

**Summary of Proposed Action**

Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River is proposed to be listed in the 2002 305(b) water quality assessment as not supporting (impaired) due to greater than ten percent (10%) exceedance of the dissolved zinc acute and chronic water quality criteria for protection of freshwater aquatic life. The beneficial uses affected by this impairment relate to aquatic life and include warm freshwater habitat and wildlife habitat..

**Table 1. 303(d) Listing/TMDL Information**

<b>Waterbody Name</b>	Los Angeles River	<b>Pollutants/Stressors</b>	Zinc
<b>Hydrologic Unit</b>	405.12	<b>Source(s)</b>	Point and Non-point sources
<b>Total Waterbody Size</b>	51 miles	<b>TMDL Priority</b>	Analytical Unit 13
<b>Size Affected</b>	23 miles	<b>TMDL Start Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2002
<b>Extent of Impairment</b>	Reach 1	<b>TMDL End Date (Mo/Yr)</b>	2004

**Watershed Characteristics**

The Los Angeles River drains 824 square miles and is 55 miles long. Forest or open space land including the area near the headwaters which originate in the Santa Monica, Santa Susana, and San Gabriel Mountains covers approximately 324 square miles of the watershed. The rest of the watershed is highly developed. The river flows through the San Fernando Valley past heavily developed residential and commercial areas. From the Arroyo Seco, north of downtown Los Angeles, to the confluence with the Rio Hondo, the river flows through industrial and commercial areas and is bordered by railyards, freeways, and major commercial and government buildings. From the Rio Hondo to the Pacific Ocean, the river flows through industrial, residential, and commercial areas, including major refineries and petroleum products storage facilities, major freeways, rail lines, and rail yards serving the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River extends from the Estuary to just above the confluence with Arroyo Seco, and includes Rio Hondo below the Santa Ana Freeway.

**Water Quality Objectives Not Attained**

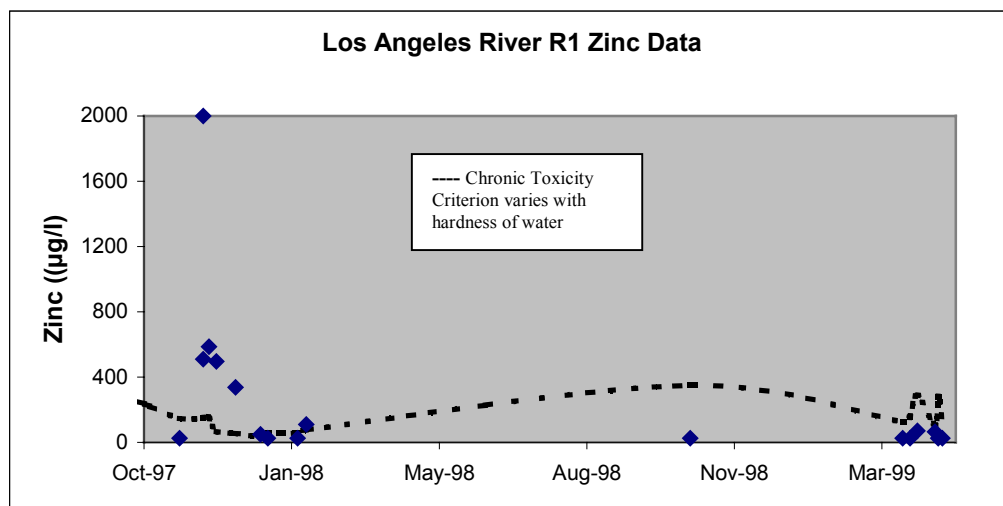
The California Toxics Rule established water quality criteria for priority pollutants for the protection of freshwater aquatic life. The limits for acute and chronic toxicity for zinc are dependent on the water hardness value. Based on the available hardness data, it was determined that the acute and chronic criteria for zinc were exceeded in 38.9% of the sampling events.

**Beneficial Uses Affected**

- Warm Freshwater Habitat

- Wildlife Habitat

## Data Assessment



**Table 2. Summary of zinc data for Reach 1 of the Los Angeles River**

Dates of Sampling	10/97 – 4/99
Number of Samples (n)	18
Minimum Data Value	25 µg/l
Maximum Data Value	2000 µg/l
Median Data Value	37.5 µg/l
Arithmetic Mean Value	247 µg/l
Standard Deviation	479 µg/l
Percent above Chronic Criterion	38.9% (for both acute and chronic)

## Potential Sources

Point and nonpoint sources

## References

Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, 1994  
Watershed Management Initiative, 2000  
California Toxics Rule